



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 184

January Session, 2005

House Bill No. 6868

House of Representatives, April 5, 2005

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through REP. O'CONNOR of the 35th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING FILING DEADLINES FOR MANAGED CARE OMBUDSMAN REPORTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 38a-1049 of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

3 (a) There is established an advisory committee to the Office of
4 Managed Care Ombudsman which shall meet four times a year with
5 the Managed Care Ombudsman and the staff of the Office of Managed
6 Care Ombudsman to review and assess the performance of the Office
7 of Managed Care Ombudsman. The advisory committee shall consist
8 of six members appointed one each by the president pro tempore of
9 the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority
10 leader of the Senate, the majority leader of the House of
11 Representatives, the minority leader of the Senate and the minority
12 leader of the House of Representatives. Each member of the advisory
13 committee shall serve a term of five years and may be reappointed at

14 the conclusion of that term. All initial appointments to the advisory
15 committee shall be made not later than March 1, 2000.

16 (b) The advisory committee shall make an annual evaluation of the
17 effectiveness of the Office of Managed Care Ombudsman and shall
18 submit the evaluation to the Governor and the joint standing
19 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
20 relating to public health and insurance not later than [February] April
21 first of each year commencing February 1, 2001.

22 Sec. 2. Section 38a-1050 of the general statutes is repealed and the
23 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

24 The Managed Care Ombudsman shall submit, not later than
25 [January] March first of each year, a report to the Governor and the
26 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
27 of matters relating to public health and insurance concerning the
28 activities of the ombudsman. The report shall include, but not be
29 limited to, information regarding: (1) The subject matter, disposition
30 and number of consumer complaints processed by the ombudsman; (2)
31 common problems and concerns discerned by the ombudsman from
32 the consumer complaints and other relevant sources; (3) the need, if
33 any, for administrative, legislative or executive remedies to assist
34 consumers; and (4) the fiscal accounts of the Office of Managed Care
35 Ombudsman.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	38a-1049
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	38a-1050

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	38a-1049
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	38a-1050

INS *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Office of Managed Care Ombudsman	IF - None	None	None

Note: IF=Insurance Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill changes the deadlines by which the Office of the Managed Care Ombudsman's advisory committee and the Managed Care Ombudsman must file certain reports. The bill has no fiscal impact.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6868

AN ACT CONCERNING FILING DEADLINES FOR MANAGED CARE OMBUDSMAN REPORTS**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the managed care ombudsman to file his annual report by March 1 instead of January 1. The bill also requires the Office of Managed Care Ombudsman's advisory committee to file its annual evaluation of the office by April 1 instead of February 1. Reports are filed with the governor and the General Assembly's Public Health and Insurance committees.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2005

BACKGROUND***Managed Care Ombudsman's Annual Report***

The managed care ombudsman must file an annual report with the governor and the General Assembly's Public Health and Insurance committees that includes (1) the subject, disposition, and number of consumer complaints processed by the ombudsman; (2) common problems and concerns detected by the ombudsman; (3) the need for any administrative, legislative, or executive action; and (4) the office's fiscal accounts.

Advisory Committee

The advisory committee to the Office of Managed Care Ombudsman must file an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the office with the governor and the General Assembly's Public Health and Insurance committees. The six-member committee must meet four times each year with the ombudsman and his office staff to review and assess the office's performance. Committee members are appointed one each by the Senate president pro tempore, House speaker, Senate majority leader, House majority leader, Senate minority leader, and House minority leader.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 15 Nay 0